(b) if so, whether the Minister for Commerce and Industries, Government of West Bengal, in a letter dated 1st February, 1986 had requested the Central Government to extend the period of take-over for one more year by when a decision for the nationalisation of all these units would be taken; and

(c) if so, what action, if any, has been taken on the said representation of the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) At the request of the State Government the validity of take-over of the six industrial units in West Bengal, which are due to expire on 31st March, 1986. is being extended for a further period to enable the State Government to decide on their future disposition.

Estimate of Sick Industries

2030. SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether an estimate has been made of the industries lying sick at present both in the public sector and the private sector;

(b) if so, the details of such study; and

(c) whether any plans have been drawn up for such industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) Data on sick industrial units assisted by bank are collected by the Reserve Bank of India as per the definition of sickness adopted by it. According to the latest data furnished by it, there were 93,282 sick units in the country as at the end of December, 1984 with an outstanding bank credit of Rs. 3638 crores, The sector wise data (public and private) are not centrally maintained in this Ministry.

(c) Government have issued certain policy guidelines for guidance of central Ministries, State Government and banks and financial institutions in October 1981 for the revival/rehabilitation of potentially viable units. The salient features of these guidelines were furnished in the reply to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 700 on 15-7-1982. In cases where sick units are taken over as a part of rehabilitation schemes prepared by banks and financial institutions, various reliefs and forms of assistance such as reconstruction of capital, funding of interest liabilities, capital and working capital loans on softer terms, relief or re-scheduling of debt service liabilities, etc. are provided for in such rehabilitation schemes. The Central Government and State Governments also provide various fiscal and other reliefs as a part of rehabilitation packages formulated by banks and financial institutions, for individual sick units. In addition, healthy units are encouraged through Income Tax relief to take over sick units by way of amalgamation.

Also, "The Sick Industrial Companies (Sepcial Provisions) Act, 1985" has been enacted which provides, *inter-alia* for timely detection of sick and potentially sick industrial units and for establishment of a quasi-judiical body to be designated as the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction with powers to consider suitable measures for speedy rehabilitation of potentially viable sick industrial units.

Growth in Industrial Production

2031. SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the actual rate of growth in Industrial production during the current financial year upto February, 1986 as compared to that during the last two years and the target fixed under the plan; and